

Application No.: 10/821335

Case No.: 58562US005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 13, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

For purposes of the present application, one way to determine if an IRM compound is considered to be an agonist for a particular TLR is if it activates an NFkB/luciferase reporter construct through that TLR from the target species more than about 1.5 fold, and usually at least about 2 fold, in TLR transfected host cells such as, e.g., HEK293 or Namalwa cells relative to control transfectants. For information regarding TLR activation, see, e.g., International Publication Nos. WO 03/043573 and WO 03/043588, ~~U.S. Patent Application Serial Nos. 10/777,310, 10/732,563, 10/732,796, and 10/788,731,~~ and U.S. Patent Publication Nos. US2004/0162309, US2004/0132079, US2004/0197865, US2004/0171086, and US2004/0014779, and the other IRM patents and applications disclosed herein.

On page 20, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

A suitable hydrogel can be natural, synthetic, or a combination thereof. In some embodiments, the hydrogel can be thermally responsive to a designed temperature such as, for example, a hydrogel as described in U.S. Patent ~~Publication Application Serial Number US2004/0151691~~ 10/626261, filed July 24, 2003. For example, the thermally responsive hydrogels can be harden when they are warmed up to body temperature, can be further harden upon UV irradiation.

On page 52, please replace the paragraph that starts on line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

IRMs can be covalently attached to bioadhesive crosslinked polymers of acrylic acid through amide or ester formation. An IRM containing a pendant amine or hydroxyl group is reacted with a free carboxylic acid group on the polymer to form an amide or an ester respectively. IRM compounds containing pendant amine or hydroxyl groups and methods of making them are known. See, for example, U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,689,338; 5,389,640; 5,268,376;

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6,451,810; 6,677,349; 6,660,747; 5,352,784; 5,446,153; 6,545,016; 6,194,425; 4,988,815; 5,175,296; 5,395,937; 5,741,908; and 5,693,811; U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2004/0147543, 2004/0010007 and 2003/0232852; ~~and U.S. Patent Applications Serial No. 10/739787~~ filed ~~December 18, 2003~~. Bioadhesive crosslinked polymers of acrylic acid are commercially available; for example, CARBOPOL 971P and CARBOPOL 974P, both from Noveon, Inc, Cleveland, OH.